



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374-A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<http://board.co.la.ca.us/blc>**

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

9:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (15-1646)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell,
Secretary Shan Lee, and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Absent: Commissioner James Barger

1. Call to Order. (15-1482)

President Vasquez called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. President Vasquez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

2. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of March 11, 2015. (15-1483)

On motion of Vice President Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Morrill, and unanimously carried by the following vote, this item was approved.

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Hearing on application for issuance of new Information Card and Notice of Intention to Solicit to Judy Lam for Asian Pacific Women's Center, Inc., located at 244 S. San Pedro St., Suite 504, Los Angeles, CA 90012 in the First District. (15-1501)

Judy Lam, representative for Asian Pacific Women's Center, Inc., provided an overview of the agency. Ms. Lam explained that the agency provides shelter for women and children of various ethnicities who have been victims of domestic violence. The shelter also serves as a transition center, where women and children have the ability to stay in the facility for up to 12 months. Families learn to be self-sufficient and live independently in their own apartment; jobs and other resources are also provided. Ms. Lam reported that they have a 100% success rate.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Ms. Lam indicated that the agency plans to solicit funds via social media and host a fundraising Gala at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in May 2015. The shelter has a capacity of 24 beds and is funded by a combination of government agencies and other entities such as Blue Shield, Verizon, Wells Fargo, etc. Ms. Lam confirmed that two signatures are required on checks issued by the agency.

Commissioner Morrill thanked the agency for their service.

On motion of President Vasquez, seconded by Vice President Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the issuance of the new Information Card.

On motion of President Vasquez, seconded by Vice President Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Commission received the Notice of Intention to Solicit.

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Hearing on application for issuance of new Information Card and Notice of Intention to Solicit to Farid Wadood for Self-Made LAX Car Club, located at 4905 4th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90043 in the Second District. (15-1502)

President Vasquez reported that the applicant called and advised that he will not be attending the meeting and requested that the hearing be rescheduled.

On motion of Vice President Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Morrill, and unanimously carried, this item was continued to the meeting of May 20, 2015.

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

5. Hearing on application for issuance of new Information Card and Notice of Intention to Solicit to Victoria Harris for California Wildlife Center, located at 26026 Piuma Rd., Calabasas, CA 91302 in the Third District. (15-1503)

Victoria Harris, representative for the California Wildlife Center, provided an overview of the center. Ms. Harris indicated that the organization was established in 1996 and the center was opened in 2000 as a rehabilitation center for injured and orphaned native wildlife. They currently have a combined total of 4,600 animals and marine mammals, a full time wildlife Veterinarian, and they are the only center approved by the County of Los Angeles to provide care for coyotes and fawns. Ms. Harris added that the center is currently assisting with the growing sea lion crisis.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Ms. Harris indicated that the center is located on a three acre parcel and marine mammals are housed in a five foot above ground pool, once animals are rehabbed they are released back into their habitat. Ms. Harris added that they are currently looking for a larger facility. Ms. Harris indicated that a mountain lion was spotted in the area; however, there are no reports of animal attacks. The center currently uses direct mailing and special events as methods to solicit funds. Ms. Harris confirmed that the organization has eight board members and agreed to require two signatures on checks issued.

On motion of Commissioner Morrill, seconded by Vice President Campbell,

and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the issuance of the new Information Card.

On motion of Commissioner Morrill, seconded by Vice President Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Commission received the Notice of Intention to Solicit.

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

6. Hearing on application for Entertainment-General, Business License ID# 140968, to issue a new license to Westlake Properties Inc. / DBA Mediterraneo, Christopher R. Culty, Chief Operation Officer and Chief Financial Officer, located at 32037 Agoura Rd., Westlake Village, CA 91361 in the Third District. (15-1497)

Eric Barnes, Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office (TTC), reported that the application is for an Entertainment General business license. The applicant has obtained all the necessary County approvals; TTC has no objection to the issuance of the license.

Christopher R. Culty, Chief Operation Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Westlake Properties Inc. DBA Mediterraneo provided a brief overview of the business. Mr. Culty indicated that the business is a full service restaurant that will feature a guitarist for entertainment.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Mr. Culty indicated that amplified music will be provided indoors during happy hour. A few neighboring homes are directly across from the restaurant; however, sound that comes from the music is not heard outside. Hours of operation are Monday through Sunday, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mr. Culty confirmed that Mediterraneo is adjacent to Stonehaus, a restaurant he recently obtained a business license for.

Secretary Lee referenced a letter from the city of Westlake Village, indicating that amplified music is not allowed. Mr. Culty indicated that he was not aware of such restriction and that he would be addressing the matter with the City of Westlake Village.

Vice President Campbell asked TTC staff to clarify restrictions that the City of Westlake Village can impose on the business. Eric Barnes, TTC,

indicated that aside from complying with Title 7 – Business Licenses of the Los Angeles County Code, the City of Westlake Village can impose separate restrictions.

President Vasquez asked about the entertainment previously provided by La Cafe, the restaurant before Mediterraneo. Mr. Culty indicated that a guitarist with amplified music was utilized.

Commissioner Lee referenced both complaint and favorable letters from the community. Commissioner Morrill reiterated the importance of addressing concerns and being sensitive to the surrounding neighbors. Mr. Culty explained that the music neighbors are hearing is from an adjacent night club and believes that the foundation of the complaints originated from an October Fest event that was previously held at Stonehaus. Mr. Culty indicated that a community meeting to address the noise issues was held; however, only two members were present. Mr. Culty added that he has been working with the Sheriff's Department to identify the source of the issues.

The Commission suggested Mr. Culty continue his efforts to reach out to the community; Mr. Culty agreed to do so.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Mr. Culty confirmed that his efforts on reaching out to the community are not part of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and that he would contact the city of Westlake Village to clarify the restriction regarding the use of non-amplified music.

Discussion regarding business license conditions ensued. After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Morrill, seconded by Vice President Campbell, and unanimously carried by the following vote, the Commission approved the aforementioned license with the following condition:

- A letter in support of interior amplified music from the City of Westlake Village must be submitted to TTC no later than May 13, 2015.

LaTayvius Alberty, County Counsel, requested clarification on the condition. Vice President Campbell confirmed that Mr. Culty does not have to re-appear before the Commission if the letter is received within the specified timeframe.

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

7. Hearing on application for Water Taxi Operator, Business License ID# 141650, to issue a new license to Pifko Charters, LLC., Joseph E. Pifko, Manager, located at 5048 Dantes View Drive, Calabasas, CA 91301 in the Third District. (15-1498)

Eric Barnes, Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office (TTC), reported that the application is for a Water Taxi Operator business license. The applicant has obtained all the necessary County approvals; TTC has no objection to the issuance of the license.

Joseph E. Pifko, Manager for Pifko Charters, LLC, provided a brief overview of the business. Mr. Pifko indicated that he recently retired from Boeing and as a side business he provides boat charter services on his 47 foot sail boat.

Secretary Lee asked TTC staff to clarify areas left blank on the application. Eric Barnes, TTC, indicated that areas left blank are not applicable to the business in question.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Mr. Pifko confirmed that his vessel is 47-feet and he is licensed to carry up to six people.

Secretary Lee asked TTC staff if water taxi rates need to be filed. Mr. Barnes confirmed that rates for water taxis are not required to be filed.

On motion of Commissioner Morrill, seconded by Vice President Campbell, and unanimously carried by the following vote, the Commission approved the aforementioned license:

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

8. Hearing on application for Bingo Manager, Business License ID# 142004, to issue a new license to Victoria Salti, of Beth Shalom of Whittier, located at 14564 E. Hawes St., Whittier, CA 90064 in the Fourth District. (15-1499)

Victoria Salti, representative for Beth Shalom of Whittier, provided a brief overview of the organization. Ms. Salti indicated that the organization provides Jewish education, religious services and other educational services such as English as a Second Language (ESL) courses to the community. As a result of a slowly decreasing Jewish community, the organization has turned to Bingo games as a method to keep serving the community.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Ms. Salti confirmed that bingo games are conducted on-site, on Sundays, with approximately 130-150 players. Cash prizes consist of \$250.00 per game; bingo games are not electronic. Ms. Salti confirmed that she is familiar with the Bingo Manager Ordinance.

On motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Vice President Campbell, and unanimously carried by the following vote, the Commission approved the aforementioned license:

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

9. Hearing on application for Entertainment-General W/Dance/SC & Annual Dance/SC, Business License ID# 141796, to issue a new license to SMK Corporation/DBA Vincenzo's Newhall Pizza, Steven M. Katz, President, located at 24504 ½ Lyons Ave., Newhall, CA 91321 in the Fifth District. (15-1500)

Eric Barnes, Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office (TTC), reported that the application is for an Entertainment General with Dance and Annual Dance business license and the hearing is being held for the City of Santa Clarita. The applicant has obtained all the necessary County approvals; the City of Santa Clarita has no objection to the issuance of the license.

Steven Martin Katz, President for Vincenzo's Newhall Pizza, provided a brief overview of the business. Mr. Katz indicated that the business is an iconic restaurant that has been operating for approximately 37 years.

Mr. Katz added that the restaurant hosts a variety of community activities such as fundraisers for organizations such as the Boy Scouts, the U.S. Marine Corps, as well as, social gatherings for clubs and local high schools. Local Blues, Jazz and Bluegrass bands provide entertainment Thursdays through Sundays.

In response to questions posed by the Commission, Mr. Katz confirmed that dancing does not usually occur at the restaurant; however, the dance license will be available if needed. Amplified music is provided and doors are kept closed as a method to reduce noise from traveling outside. The facility size is approximately 4,000 square feet and has a seating capacity of approximately 160 people, a stage for the entertainers is available; however, there is no dressing room. Hours of operation are Sunday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The Commission suggested for Mr. Katz to have other employees apply for entertainment manager's license.

On motion of Vice President Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Morrill, and unanimously carried by the following vote, the Commission approved the aforementioned license with a dressing room waiver:

Ayes: 4 - President Sara Vasquez, Vice President Renée Campbell, Secretary Shan Lee and Commissioner Genevieve Morrill

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

III. REPORT

10. Commissioners' Comments. (15-1484)

The Commission reviewed the calendar for April 2015 and May 2015 and agreed to cancel the following meeting dates:

April 15, 2015, May 6 and 13, 2015.

The next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

11. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (15-1485)

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

12. Adjournment for the meeting of April 8, 2015. (15-1486)

On motion of President Vasquez, seconded by Secretary Lee, there being no objection, the Commission adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.